

REMARKS

Claims 1-76 were pending in the Application prior to the outstanding Office Action. With this Amendment, claims 96-99 are newly added and claims 1, 16-19, 35-38, 54-57 and 73-76 are cancelled, leaving claims 2-15, 20-37, 39-53, 58-27 and 96-99 for examination.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-38 and 58-76 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Landvater (US 6,609,101). The Examiner has rejected claims 39-57 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Landvater (US 6,609,101). The rejections are moot, as a new independent claim 96 has been introduced.

Interview Report

On October 18, an in-person interview took place. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's courtesy in granting an interview and the Examiner's interview summary mailed October 23.

During the interview, Applicants went over a proposed amendment along the lines of newly added claims 96-99. We discussed the emphasis placed on the use of an event type in the causal event calendar data structure. The event type facilitates integration of many factors that impact demand into a single processing flow. An integrated causal event calendar can be used to perform a wide variety of analyses and generate analytical reports based on a consistent and granular approach to the data. Landvater stops short of this integrated and consistent approach.

No agreements were reached.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) of Claims 1-38 and 58-76

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-38 and 58-76 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Landvater (US 6,609,101).

These rejections are moot in light of the amendments. Landvater does not disclose the claimed approach, using an integrated causal calendar.

Applicants do not intend to introduce any new matter by these amendments. Shift from device to a method claim is supported throughout the specification.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) of Claims 39-57

The Examiner has rejected claims 39-57 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Landvater (US 6,609,101).

These rejections are moot in light of the amendments. Landvater does not disclose the claimed approach, using an integrated causal calendar.

Applicants to not intend to introduce any new matter by these amendments. Shift from device to a method claim is supported throughout the specification.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance and thereby solicit acceptance of the claims, in light of these amendments.

The undersigned can ordinarily be reached at his office at (650) 712-0340 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and can be reached at his cell phone at (415) 902-6112 most other times.

Fee Authorization. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee(s) determined to be due in connection with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0869 (BLFR 1003-1).

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 5 December 2006

/Ernest J. Beffel, Jr./

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